

24. The system of claim 22 wherein the lancet magazine has an elongated, flat cuboid shape.

25. The system of claim 23 wherein the lancets are arranged next to one another in pairwise contact in the lancet magazine.

26. The system of claim 22 wherein a second opening through which protective sheaths of the lancets can be ejected is located in the lancet magazine in addition to the opening into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine.

27. The system of claim 22 wherein the lancet magazine has a flat angular or round disk shape.

28. The system of claim 27 further comprising a plurality of lancets wherein the lancets are arranged radially in a plane about a central axis.

29. The system of claim 22 wherein the transport device of the lancet magazine is a manually operated slide.

30. The system of claim 22 wherein the transport device of the lancet magazine is driven by a spring mechanism.

31. The system of claim 22 wherein a pin is present in the opening of the lancet magazine into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine, and the pin engages in a guide groove in the tip of the lancing device which is inserted into said opening and thus causes a rotation of the lancing device or a part of the lancing device about its longitudinal axis.

Sub 077
Not shown in figure 1
32. The system of claim 22 wherein a guide groove is present in the opening of the lancet magazine into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine and wherein a pin is provided in the tip of the lancing device which is inserted into said opening so that the pin engages the guide groove and thus causes a rotation of the lancing device or a part of the lancing device about its longitudinal axis.

33. A lancet magazine for storing a plurality of lancets wherein the lancet magazine has a transport device for transporting lancets and an opening into which a lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine.

34. The lancet magazine of claim 33 wherein a second opening through which a protective sheath of a lancet can be ejected is located in the lancet magazine opposite to the opening into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a lancet from the lancet magazine.

35. The lancet magazine of claim 33 wherein a guide groove or a guide pin is present in the opening of the lancet magazine into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine.

36. The lancet magazine of claim 33 wherein the lancet magazine comprises a means for allowing the lancets within the lancet magazine to be seen from outside the magazine.

37. A lancet comprising a metal needle which is partially encased in a metal or plastic body, wherein the metal or plastic body contains means for preventing the lancet from being pushed out of a lancet magazine when the lancet is gripped by a lancing device.

38.

A lancet set comprising a plurality of lancets which are detachably connected together.

39.

A lancing device having a grip member and a tip that can be covered with a protecting cap, wherein a guide groove or a guide pin is present in the tip of the lancing device.

40.

A method for removing a lancet from a lancet magazine, comprising the steps of manually or automatically transporting a lancet located in the lancet magazine into a removal position in the interior of the lancet magazine, at least partially inserting a lancing device into an opening provided in the lancet magazine such that the lancing device automatically grips the lancet located in the removal position, and removing the lancing device with the gripped lancet from the lancet magazine.

41.

The method of claim 40 wherein a protective sheath of the lancet is removed from the lancet when the lancing device grips the lancet.

42.

The method of claim 40 wherein a protective sheath of the lancet is removed from the lancet when the lancing device with the gripped lancet is removed from the lancet magazine.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard T. Knauer

Richard T. Knauer, Reg. No. 35,575
Roche Diagnostics Corporation
9115 Hague Road, Bldg. D
P.O. Box 50457
Indianapolis, IN 46250-0457
Telephone: (317) 576-7464

Date: November 30, 1999